Words to Treasure

Beautiful, thought provoking words of wisdom from the renowned spiritual mentor

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at-tazkiyah

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An Inspired Du'ā of Our Beloved Shaykh *ḥafiẓahullāh*

O Allāh,

Do not ever let a bad thought enter my heart about any of your servants who are beloved to You.

Do not ever let me become a cause of distress or pain to such people.

Instead, grant me love for them, purely for Your sake, and let their happiness with me be a means of acquiring Your Pleasure. Āmīn.

Tawbah

Thread of Tawbah

Tawbah is that special thread which stitches together the relationship between Allāh ﷻ and His servant after it is torn by sin.

So Pleased

When someone does tawbah Allāh ﷻ is more pleased than a dying person who is given another chance of life.

Neglected Gift

One of the greatest gifts of Allāh ﷻ, yet the most neglected, is tawbah.

Best Place, Best Time

The most blessed place for a believer is that place where he repents to Allāh ﷻ and the most

blessed time for a believer is that moment when he repents and becomes the special friend of Allāh ﷻ.

Positive Regret

Regret and remorse are signs that Allāh ﷻ loves you, because without them you cannot make a u-turn and please Allāh ﷻ.

Make the Moment

When a person resolves to repent and strengthen his bond with Allāh ﷻ, there is no difference for him between a Friday and any other day, or between Laylatul-Qadr and any other night. The most blessed moment for such a person is that moment when he turns to Allāh ﷻ and says: "O Allāh, forgive me! I have repented; I will not sin again."

Fruits of Tawbah

Through the act of tawbah the stamina to resist sinful activities increases. Shayṭān knows this, which is why he makes us despondent about the chances of being forgiven so that we do not repent.

Tawbah - an Unearned Gift

We are all utterly in need of Allāh ﷻ, while Allāh ﷻ is in absolutely no need of us. Despite this, Allāh ﷻ has mercifully created tawbah for us. *Subḥānallāh*!

Reward of Resoluteness

If someone makes a firm resolution to lead a life free of any disobedience to Allāh ﷻ, and then passes away two days, two hours or even two minutes later, having remained firm in his resolve, Allāh ﷻ will resurrect him on the Day of Qiyāmah amongst His special friends.

No Limit

Allāh ﷻ has not placed any limit on how many times a person is allowed to do tawbah, so we should never be despondent. At the same time we should not use tawbah as a crutch and keep sinning.

Bad to Good

In many cases our Most Merciful Creator transforms a bad deed into a good deed when we do tawbah.

Increased Resistance

The more times you do tawbah from a sin ,the

stronger you become, and the more resistant you become to that sin.

Constancy in Tawbah

If you resolve to give up a sin and you do tawbah, and you continue to do tawbah whenever you fall prey to that sin, then through the barakah of tawbah a time will come when hatred for that sin will be born in your heart.

Taqwā

Meaning of Taqwā

Taqwā means fearing and abstaining from the displeasure of Allāh ﷻ.

True Taqwā

The sign of true taqwā is that the heart detests sin and desires to stay well away from it.

Sweet Transformation

If we continue to swallow the bitter pill of taqwā, it will soon transform into the sweet fruit of taqwā.

Ability to Follow Bad with Good

You will only be able to follow up a bad deed

with a good deed if your heart is enlightened with the nūr of taqwā.

Benefit of Taqwā

If the nūr of taqwā is present in the heart, the inclination towards sin becomes weak.

Attitude to Sinning

A believer, despite knowing that he *will* fall prey to Shayṭān, always has a firm resolution never to sin.

Taqwā-Tawbah Cycle

We should try our best to adopt taqwā, but if we ever slip then we should immediately turn to tawbah. Through the barakah of this taqwā-tawbah cycle the strength to adopt taqwā will continue increasing and the need to resort to tawbah will keep decreasing.

Become a Pearl

Fame without acceptance in the Court of Allāh ﷻ is like a bubble, which despite floating free on the surface of the water is likely to burst and disappear at any time. By adopting taqwā a person becomes like a pearl which, though it lies unseen at the bottom of the sea, will one

day be worthy of gracing the crowns of kings.

Equality Through Taqwā

There was no racism between the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ, for they all believed in the principle that the most honourable amongst them was the one with the most taqwā.

Open Door to Wilāyah

In order to become the walī of Allāh ﷻ a person has to become a believer and thereafter adopt taqwā. And Allāh ﷻ has granted each and every human the ability to do them both.

Excel in Taqwā

Excel in 'ilm (knowledge), excel in 'amal (actions), and you will excel in taqwā (piety).

Mission Accomplished!

If you spend your life doing what pleases Allāh ﷻ and abstaining from what displeases Allāh ﷻ, you will have accomplished your mission!

Muḥammad ﷺ - the Best

The Greatest Favour

After the gift of īmān, Allāh ﷻ has not

conferred upon us a favour greater than including us in the ummah of the greatest Nabī, Muḥammad ﷺ.

Clear Sign

A sign that our religion is complete and comprehensive is that there is not a single aspect of human life that our beloved Nabī ﷺ did not address in his twenty-three years of Prophethood.

Special Ṣadaqah

Everything related to Dīn that has reached us, including every noble quality and trait, is a ṣadaqah of our beloved Nabī ﷺ. Without this gift, our lives would not be much different to those of animals. It is therefore necessary to send ṣalāh & salām upon our beloved Nabī ﷺ in abundance.

Sincerity in Ṣalāh & Salām

We should convey ṣalāh and salām upon our beloved Nabī ﷺ with great reverence and love, with the thought that although we have not sent forth much by way of good deeds for the hereafter, maybe this deed will secure our salvation.

Rights Restored

Rasūlullāh ﷺ restored the rights of every sector of humanity, especially the weak.

Sīrah is Sufficient

When talking to non-Muslims about Islām there is no need to go into detailed matters of fiqh; the exemplary Sīrah of Rasūlullāh ﷺ is sufficient.

Following the Sunnah

Shortest Route

The easiest and shortest route to the proximity of Allāh ﷻ is following in the footsteps of His beloved Rasūl ﷺ.

From Pleasure to Reward

If you eat to satisfy your nafs, you will only satisfy your nafs; and if you eat with the intention of following a Sunnah (i.e. Rasūlullāh ﷺ used to eat), you will not only satisfy your nafs but also earn reward for carrying out a Sunnah.

The Solution

The only solution to the problems facing the Muslim Ummah is to become beloved to Allāh سبحانه وتعالى by following in the footsteps of Rasūlullāh ﷺ, which is the whole Dīn of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى.

Sign of Love

A sign that you love Allāh سبحانه وتعالى is that you strive to emulate the Prophet ﷺ in as many aspects of your life as possible.

Blessed Thoughts

A sign of true love for the Prophet ﷺ is that one constantly thinks of him and his beautiful teachings and emulates him.

Mercy

Hidden Mercy

Hidden behind the veil of DOs and DON'Ts of Islām is the Mercy of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى.

Nothing But Mercy

Every word and every action of Rasūlullāh ﷺ conveys the message of mercy.

Pure Mercy

Allāh ﷿ is Ar-Raḥmān (Most-Merciful), our Prophet ﷺ is Raḥmatul-lil-'Ālamīn (Mercy for the Worlds) and the teachings of Islām are full of mercy. Therefore we must also become living examples of mercy.

How to Attract Mercy

In order to attract the Mercy of the Most Compassionate Creator, we ourselves have to become merciful to others.

Obedience Attracts Mercy

Upon being given the tawfīq to carry out the Commands of Allāh ﷿, feel the joy of being enshrouded in His Mercy.

Reality of Praise

When people praise us, they are not really praising us; they are praising the veil placed by Allāh ﷿ which conceals our faults.

Divine Favours

Greatest Gift

The greatest gift anyone can receive is the

Pleasure of Allāh ﷻ.

Value the Greatest Gift

If someone gives you a gift and you behave with it as if you consider it of no value, you will displease the giver. Similarly, Allāh ﷻ has granted us the gift of Islām; if we do not appreciate it and treasure it and bring it into our lives, Allāh ﷻ will also become displeased.

Think Positive

The quality of being able to think good and positive about others is a great ni'mah of Allāh ﷻ.

Wisdom Behind Witholding

Shayṭān, our eternal enemy, tries many ways to attack us. One way is to make us despondent about not having a particular thing and the possibility of ever acquiring it. We should counter the attack by recounting the countless blessings Allāh ﷻ has given us, physical and spiritual, and understanding that if we have not been given one or more particular things, there must be Divine Wisdom behind it.

Contemplate to Connect

Contemplate the blessings of Allāh ﷻ daily; it is human nature that by doing so love for the Giver will be created, along with the desire to obey Him.

Blessing in Loss

Many times Allāh ﷻ takes away blessings and then returns them. It is during such times that we realise their true value and are able to express shukr from the depth of the heart. In this way, even taking away a blessing is a favour of Allāh ﷻ upon us.

Mostly Unrecognised

Those Favours of Allāh ﷻ that we recognise as favours are far fewer than those that we do not even recognise as favours.

Hidden Blessing

One great blessing we hardly ever acknowledge is that despite all our faults, Allāh ﷻ keeps those faults concealed.

Appreciating a Favour

The way to appreciate a particular favour of Allāh ﷻ is to deem yourself unworthy of it.

Love

Seed of Love

By contemplating the many favours of Allāh ﷾ the seed of the love will be planted.

Definite Departures

Love whomsoever and whatsoever you desire, but remember that sooner or later you will be separated from that beloved. There is only One Being from Whom you will never separate, and that is Allāh ﷾, unless of course, you do not adorn your heart with His love.

Eternal Love

If two people love each other for the pleasure of Allāh ﷾ then their relationship will never become sour. Any love for the pleasure of Allāh ﷾ is, in fact, love for Allāh ﷾, which will last forever.

Beneficial Love

The love directed towards people of piety, knowledge and virtue will bring great benefits.

Food of the Heart

When a person is hungry, he will eat. If he

is unable to find ḥalāl food, he will resort to ḥarām. Love is the food of the heart. If the heart is not provided with permissible love – the love for Allāh ﷿ and His Rasūl ﷺ and those things associated to them – it will resort to impermissible love.

Valuable Heart

A jewellery box is only valuable when there is jewellery in it, otherwise it is just a box. Similarly, the heart is only valuable if love for Allāh ﷿ and His Rasūl ﷺ is in it, otherwise it is just a piece of flesh.

Only 'Allāh'

If the heart is adorned with the love for Allāh ﷿, the ears will only hear 'Allāh', the eyes will only see 'Allāh' and the tongue will only utter 'Allāh'.

United Forever

Those who choose to adorn their hearts with the love of Allāh ﷿ will remain united with Allāh ﷿ every moment of their lives.

Nothing Sweeter

When the love of Allāh ﷿ enters a person's

heart, there is nothing sweeter.

Only Fear

If we carry out the farā'iḍ and the wājibāt only, it is a sign that we only fear Allāh ﷻ and not love Him.

Fear, not Love

If you really love someone, nothing they ask you to do will be too hard. Even the most difficult of tasks will seem easy. Our problem is we do not truly love Allāh ﷻ, we only fear Him, and so the easiest of His Commands seems onerous.

Precious Tears

Tears shed out of love of Allāh ﷻ or fear of Allāh ﷻ are so precious that they should not be wasted, but wiped over the face instead.

The Heart

A Real Heart

The only heart worthy of being called a heart in reality is that which is adorned with the love of Allāh ﷻ.

The Heart is in Control

If the heart is spiritually healthy, the tongue will speak only good, the eyes will look at only what is good, the ears will hear only good, the hands will reach for only what is good and the feet will walk only towards good.

Overlooking the Heart

The heart is the abode for Divine Love. Just consider, then, how valuable the heart is, and how little attention we give it!

Spiritual Stamina

When the heart is strengthened, it develops spiritual stamina, which then enables the body to do what previously seemed very difficult.

Corrupt Heart

For as long as our hearts remain corrupt, our deeds will remain corrupt.

From the Heart

Islām demands our hearts become so pure that when we meet people, we not only display beautiful akhlāq but our hearts are also engaged in beautiful akhlāq.

Capable Heart

Allāh ﷻ is the one who causes peace, tranquillity and happiness to descend, but they only descend upon hearts that become worthy and capable of accommodating them through purification.

Reward for Controlling Desires

A person who leaves unlawful pleasures for the sake of Allāh ﷻ will find that his heart is filled with lawful pleasures from Allāh ﷻ.

Worldly Heart

If you always gives preference to the permissible over the impermissible then this is a sign that your heart is free from the love of the world.

Perfect Believer

100% Guarantee

Only a perfect believer is guaranteed peace of mind, a good death, success in the grave and in the subsequent stages of the ākhirah - an ordinary believer is not guaranteed any of these.

Incomplete Muslim

Islām teaches that a Muslim who is regular with the tenets of Islām is not worthy of being called a perfect Muslim for as long as he causes harm or distress to others.

The Qur'ān is the Key

The Doors of Divine Help open when we become true Muslims, and the only way to do that is to become connected to the teachings of the Glorious Qur'ān.

Whole Dīn

One attains the special friendship of Allāh ﷾ by practising Dīn in its entirety.

Good Muslim, Good Citizen

A good Muslim will always be a good citizen because Islām teaches him to abhor and refrain from all types of oppression and everything that is antisocial and detrimental to society.

Sign of Perfection

Complete submission to Allāh ﷾ is the defining characteristic of a perfect Muslim.

True Destination

The acquisition of the pleasure of Allāh ﷾ is

a Muslim's true destination.

Still Incomplete

Although we are Muslims, two things prevent us from being complete Muslims: love of wealth and love of status.

Good Deeds

Action and Acceptance

There is a difference between a deed coming into existence and a deed being accepted in the Court of Allāh ﷻ. Eternal success depends on deeds being accepted and not on their existence only.

Effects of Deeds

Every good word and every good action, no matter how insignificant, benefits not only you but the whole of mankind, and not only in this world but also in the hereafter.

Build for the Hereafter

The house of the hereafter is constructed in this world. If we construct it with bricks of good, a house will await us in Jannah; if we

construct it with bricks of evil, a house will await us in Jahannam.

What is ‘Ibādah?

‘Ibādah – worship and devotion – is to do that which pleases Allāh ﷻ and to refrain from that which displeases Him.

Small is Great

The smallest and least rewarding teaching of Islām is greater than the heavens and the earth; how then can we neglect the ādāb and mustaḥab acts of Islām?

Small Deed

Sometimes a small deed can become instrumental in someone becoming a walī of Allāh ﷻ, so never look down on anyone, no matter what his condition.

Take Care of the Pennies

The one who values the sunan, mustaḥabbāt and nawāfil will never be able to discard the farā’iḍ and wājibāt.

Supporting Parents

The best way of serving and benefiting parents after their demise is to follow the Dīn.

Reward of a Look

There are three things that earn you reward by simply looking at them: the letters of the Qur'ān, the Ka'bah, and your parents.

Profit from Laylatul-Qadr

During every night of Ramaḍān, spend at least one pound in charity; if it happens to be Laylatul-Qadr, you will receive the reward of spending one pound every day for eighty-three years.

High Earner

Allāh ﷻ will repay us for our spending according to our sincerity and sacrifice: the more the sincerity the greater the return. Likewise, the more the sacrifice the greater the return.

Simple Deed

We should always look for opportunities to do good, for sometimes a simple good deed can be a means of our lives changing.

Ibādah in Youth

Remember, a hundred prostrations in old age may not equal one prostration during youth.

Irrelevant Intention

An evil deed will not become a good deed, even by making a good intention.

Dhikr

Only Route to Contentment

Contentment of heart cannot be acquired through wealth, riches or extravagance; it is only acquired through the remembrance of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى.

Talk to Allāh سبحانه وتعالى

Learn to talk to Allāh سبحانه وتعالى regarding all your affairs: you will always remain connected to Him.

Power of Dhikr

Some people object that dhikr is optional and so of little importance. Dhikr is like petrol in a car: the value of the car is much greater than a few litres of petrol, but without petrol the car is useless.

Effect of Dhikr

The true effect of dhikr is that inclination

towards the world lessens and inclination towards the hereafter increases.

‘Ilm

The Greatest Success

The greatest success of a believer is to have correct ‘ilm and correct understanding and the tawfīq to follow this ‘ilm and understanding.

Eternal ‘Ilm

A wealthy person will be separated from his wealth, but an ‘ālim will never be separated from his ‘ilm: an ‘ālim will remain an ‘ālim even in the hereafter.

Be Equipped

Learning about Islām is a pressing need of the day. Every Muslim should equip himself to defend Islām against issues that are raised by the media.

‘Ilm is Dīn

‘Ilm is Dīn; if ‘ilm is incorrect, Dīn is incorrect.

Approach to ‘Ilm

Always approach ‘ilm with a sense of need.

Backbone of Dīn

‘Ilm and the people of ‘ilm are the backbone of Dīn.

Defining Dīn

Our success lies in that Dīn which is Dīn in the eyes of Allāh ﷻ and His Rasūl ﷺ.

Correct Alterations

You will alter a hat to fit your head, not the other way round; similarly, one should alter his lifestyle to fit Dīn, not the other way round.

Masnūn Du‘ās

Du‘ās for All Occasions

Rasūlullāh ﷺ has not left a single scenario of human life for which he has not taught a supplication.

Word Perfect

If you reflect upon the supplications of Rasūlullāh ﷺ, you will conclude that there can be no better wording for the occasion than that

which he used.

Meaning of Masnūn Du‘ās

From the many benefits of the supplications taught to us by our beloved Rasūl ﷺ one is that our tawḥīd and connection with Allāh ﷻ is strengthened.

Du‘ā

Where to Find the Treasure of Du‘ā

During times of need you roam the entire world, going hither and thither, beseeching one pious person after another to make du‘ā for you, yet the treasure of du‘ā has been in your own home all along: your mother and father.

Abundant Du‘ā

We can acquire so much through du‘ā that we should be looking for excuses to make du‘ā. This is what we find in the life of Rasūlullāh ﷺ.

Distinct Deed

If du‘ā is the ‘essence of ‘ibādah’, why should du‘ā always remain dependent on another ‘amal?

Why should du‘ā not be an independent ‘amal in our lives?

Du‘ā *is* ‘Ibādah

Du‘ā is the best form of ‘ibādah, because within seconds of raising your hands you realise your own insignificance, humbleness and complete helplessness, and the absolute power and greatness of Allāh ﷻ and your sense of utter dependence on Him. This condition of ‘abdiyyah is what all forms of ‘ibādah aim to develop.

Allāh ﷻ Desires to Give

Upon receiving tawfīq to ask from Allāh ﷻ, understand that Allāh ﷻ desires to give.

Path to Humility

By making du‘ā, we acquire humbleness.

Ask Accordingly

Don’t ask Allāh ﷻ according to your status; ask Allāh ﷻ according to His Might and Power.

Good Company

Treasure Hunt

If you seek the precious jewel that is love for Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, sit in the company of those who possess it.

Best Friend

Our best friend is one who recounts good things about us in our absence and points out our shortcomings to us only.

Spiritual Scan

Frequenting the majālis of the mashāyikh is like having an x-ray: if we see no illness then we are thankful to Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, and if we do see an illness, we are still thankful, for now we can go about treating it.

Happiness & Contentment

Real Comfort

Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى is not dependant on material means in order to give us comfort and contentment; Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى can give comfort without any material

means.

Real Pleasure

Unlawful pleasure is a mirage; real pleasure lies only in the obedience of Allāh ﷻ.

Who to Please?

If you try to please everyone but Allāh ﷻ, you will gain nothing; but if you please Allāh ﷻ, He will place your love in the hearts of His creation.

Highest Form of Happiness

The happiness you feel when you please your Creator cannot be compared to any other happiness.

Joyous Condition

If we become like Allāh ﷻ wants us to be then every moment of life will bring us new joy, new pleasure.

Happy with What You Have

Once you become content with whatever little or more you have, you will have acquired complete peace of mind and total comfort.

Hardship & Calamity

Calm During the Storm

If we follow Allāh's ﷾ Dīn in its entirety then despite being struck with disasters and calamities, He will not let depression or anxiety reach our hearts.

Ṣabr or Shukr?

If a person struck by calamity is able to exercise ṣabr, it is a sign that Allāh ﷾ is forgiving his sins; if he does shukr, it is a sign that he is sinless and Allāh ﷾ is elevating his status.

Turn to Allāh ﷾

Allāh ﷾ puts His beloved servants through difficulties, for difficulties force people to turn more to Allāh ﷾.

Only Solution

If you have a problem, the solution is Allāh ﷾. Rather, the *only* solution is Allāh ﷾. There is no other solution.

Subservience Through Ṣabr

Whatever happens is due to the will of Allāh ﷾; make your heart subservient to the will of

Allāh ﷻ by doing ṣabr.

Keep Sadness at Bay

When you find yourself surrounded by problems and difficulties, go into a quiet room, sit down, think about the positive points in your life - and smile! Remember, the Sharī'ah does not approve of indulging in one's sorrows and magnifying them.

Escape from Difficulties

We all encounter difficulties in our lives. For those who adopt taqwā, Allāh ﷻ makes a way out for them from their difficulties, either by removing the difficulty altogether or by endowing them with the ability to understand it so it does not affect their hearts and they are able to do ṣabr.

Success & Failure

Sometimes a sinful person is shown 'success' as a test, and sometimes a pious person is shown 'failure' as a test. In both cases, the end result is what counts.

Abundant Shukr

When faced with a difficulty, we should tell

ourselves that the reasons for exercising ṣabr are few, and the reasons for shukr are many.

Gain Allāh ﷿

When we are faced with problems and difficulties we begin worshipping Allāh ﷿. This is the right course of action, but don't do it to have your difficulty removed; rather, to gain the pleasure of Allāh ﷿.

Mujāhadah

Reality of Mujāhadah

Mujāhadah is of two types: compulsory and optional. Effort exerted in carrying out compulsory commands of Allāh ﷿ and abstaining from sins is compulsory mujāhadah, and effort exerted in carrying out desirable and optional deeds is optional mujāhadah.

Compulsory mujāhadah makes a person the walī of Allāh ﷿, and when accompanied by optional mujāhadah a person becomes the beloved of Allāh ﷿.

Mujāhadah of Ṣabr

Normally a person exercises mujāhadah voluntarily by carrying out the commands of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى, including optional devotions. However, sometimes calamities befall a person and compel him to do mujāhadah in the form of ṣabr. This involuntary mujāhadah is more effective in a person gaining the proximity of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى than voluntary mujāhadah.

Ṣabr in Short

There are times when we face situations where our nafs desires something and Allāh سبحانه وتعالى desires something else. To control our desires and carry out the desire of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى is ṣabr.

Prime Time to Earn

During the prime of youth the desires are at their peak and hence mujāhadah is also very difficult. Remember, the greater the sacrifice, the greater the reward.

First Step

The first step to success is to make a firm resolution to change.

High Achiever

Through the usage of willpower one can

achieve great things.

Defend Yourself

Use the self-defence of willpower and protect yourself from spiritual injury.

Keep Climbing

Initially, mujāhadah is like struggling to climb a mountain. Keep on climbing, for you will soon reach the summit, after which your journey will be downhill and easy.

Shayṭān & Nafs

Take Control

Keep control over yourself and do not let Shayṭān and the nafs control you.

Speed Trap

Our nafs is a car driving recklessly fast along the motorway of sin. It will only apply the brakes and slow down if it notices the speed camera of Allāh ﷻ, and realises: 'Allāh is watching me.'

Leader or Follower ?

A dhākir (spiritually healthy) heart will always be able to overpower the nafs; a ghāfil

(neglectful) heart will ever remain a follower, with the nafs as its imām.

Look at Loss

Shayṭān deludes us by making us look only at the profits, and not the losses; we only see the good deeds and not the sins.

Misguiding the Pious

The most common way Shayṭān misleads pious people is through riyā.

Eternal Enemy

Islām teaches us that if a person behaves badly with us, we should react with good behaviour, as this will result in that person changing for the better. However, as Shayṭān is our eternal enemy and there is absolutely no possibility of him changing, Allāh ﷻ has instructed us: "Surely, Shayṭān is an enemy to you, so treat him as an enemy..."

Morale Boost

Shayṭān may lower our morale by making us sin, but we don't realise how much we can damage his morale by doing tawbah!

Counter-attack

When a person resolves to become a special friend of Allāh ﷿, Shayṭān responds by making him sin, in an attempt to convince him that he cannot achieve his goal. When this happens, counter the assault of Shayṭān with tawbah and then continue towards your goal.

Sin

Before and After

When Shayṭān and the nafs make a sin attractive remind yourself that Allāh ﷿ punishes severely, but if overcome by them a sin is committed then remind yourself that Allāh ﷿ is Most-Forgiving.

Engaging with Guests

The thought of sinning is like a guest: if it is entertained, it will return again and again; if it is shunned and repelled a few times, it will hopefully not return.

Not for a Moment

Not a moment should pass in which we entertain the intention of committing a sin in

the future.

Cause of Calamities

Disobedience to Allāh ﷾ invites tsunamis, floods, hurricanes and wars. In fact, it snatches away the greatest niʿmah of all: peace of mind and contentment of heart.

Nothing Can be Worse

The greatest calamity, the biggest tragedy, the root of all disasters and the mother of all misfortune is disobedience to Allāh ﷾.

Control Over Sin

Sins don’t just happen, we bring them into existence. Similarly, sins won’t just go away, we have to give them up.

Our Aim

Our aim in life should be to purify ourselves from every disobedience to Allāh ﷾.

Greatest Feat

What greater feat can there be than being able to abstain from all of those things that displease Allāh ﷾.

Poisonous Thought

“What enjoyment can there be in a life without

sin?" This is a poisonous doubt carefully placed in the heart by Shayṭān.

Way Out of Sin

If you make a firm intention not to sin, with sincerity, Allāh ﷻ will create ways for you to stay away from sin.

Spiritual Maladies

Pride in Disguise

Sometimes a person may display extreme humbleness, but in reality there is pride hidden behind his humbleness.

How Much Dunyā?

Purge your heart of the dunyā to the extent that it does not make you neglectful of the Commands of Allāh ﷻ.

Problem with Progress

One of our biggest problems is that we cannot bear to see each other progressing, be it in worldly matters or Dīnī matters.

No Peace

Jealousy snatches away peace in this world;

jealousy snatches away peace in the hereafter.

Pure Eyes

A person will only attain purity of heart, mind and thought and a pure life when he safeguards his gaze.

Only One Master

When a person becomes a slave of his desires, he cannot remain a slave of Allāh ﷻ.

Free to Oppress

If a person does not have reverence for the Laws of Allāh ﷻ, he will not be able to live his life without committing ẓulm (oppression) in some form or other.

Destructive Attachment

The more we attach ourselves to the world, the more we detach ourselves from Allāh ﷻ.

Keep Burning

Allāh ﷻ does not give happiness to a person who harbours ḥasad (jealousy) towards his brother. Such a person demonstrates his displeasure with Divine Decree and takes a stand against Allāh ﷻ. Allāh ﷻ punishes the jealous one by increasing his brother in the bounties He

has given him, so that he goes on burning more and more in the flames of his jealousy.

Jealous Heart

A jealous heart continually burns in this life and will result in the whole body burning in the next life.

Pathological Pleasure

Pleasure derived by disobeying Allāh ﷻ is a form of sickness. Every spiritual illness has its own sick pleasure, e.g. bukhl (miserliness) and ghībah (backbiting) have their own attractions. The cunning Shayṭān persuades the gullible nafs to go after these sick pleasures.

Pain, Not Pleasure

Impermissible pleasure is pain not pleasure; it is sickness not vitality; it is poison not nourishment.

The Tongue

Who's in Control?

The tongue should always remain under our control; it should not control us.

Which Path?

Controlling the tongue is the path to success in the hereafter; if we are not controlling our tongues, then how can we claim to be on the path to success?

Weigh Your Words

When you desire to speak, first assess what you want to say and then speak.

Control the Tongue

The tongue – if not controlled – is very dangerous. It leads people towards calamity in this world and also in the hereafter.

Speak from the Heart

If the heart has Allāh ﷻ in it, the mind will think about Allāh ﷻ; and when the mind thinks about Allāh ﷻ, the tongue will speak about Allāh ﷻ.

Da'wah

Truth and Sincerity

If truth is conveyed with sincere intent, in the correct manner, it will not fail to have an

impact.

Power of ‘Ilm & ‘Amal

The stronger we become in our ‘ilm and ‘amal, the more effective we will become in drawing people towards Dīn. As a result, we will become a means of thousands of people entering Jannah, who will in turn become a means of our salvation in the hereafter.

Thermometer of Ikhlās

A thermometer of ikhlās (sincerity) for those engaged in the service of Dīn: if you learn of someone else also doing or progressing in the service of Dīn, and this news makes you happy, you have ikhlās, otherwise not.

Time

Invest in Life

Life is a great asset; if you invest it properly, you will reap its fruits in abundance in both worlds.

Cutting Waste

A smart person does not content himself by

only looking at the amount of work he is doing; he also looks at how much time he is wasting in profitless activities, which could have been used to get even more work done.

Length of a Year

To understand how much time there is in a year, look at how swiftly the previous year passed, not at how long the coming year appears.

No Time

We tend to have time for everything except what will benefit us in the hereafter, e.g. tilāwah, dhikr, spending time in the company of the pious etc.

Open Your Eyes

Our eyes will only really open when the time comes for them to close. Open your eyes now, before it is too late!

Avoiding the Permissible

The culture of the noble Ṣaḥābah ﵃, tābi‘īn, tab‘ tābi‘īn, and the muttaqīn and awliyā ﵏ of the whole ummah throughout the past fourteen centuries, has been that something that gives

no benefit in the world or the hereafter, despite being permissible, should be avoided.

Trapped in Triviality

A person who involves himself in trivial activities will not be able to fulfil his obligations.

Timewasters

There are three ways of wasting the precious gift of time:

a) disobedience to Allāh ﷻ;

b) engaging in lā ya'nī, something that neither benefits in this world nor the hereafter;

c) not understanding your priorities, and so engaging in something of lesser importance, necessity or benefit (e.g. for a student who is struggling with his lessons to spend his spare time reading extracurricular books).

Season to Earn

Life is a season to earn for the hereafter; whatever profit we can make during this time cannot be made once the 'season' is over.

Concern for the Hereafter

No Regrets

We need to live our lives in such a way that were death to overtake us tomorrow, there would be no regrets.

Direct to Jannah

Our goal should not be to eventually enter Jannah; our goal should be to directly enter Jannah, without having to first suffer the fire of Jahannam.

No Connection

One who has no fear of punishment in the hereafter has either a weak connection or no connection with Allāh ﷻ.

Only a Whisper

The thought of the hereafter seldom crosses our minds, and if it ever does, it is like a whisper that is paid no attention.

Last Action

Whenever doing anything – good or bad – think to yourself that it may be your last action.

Remember Death

Do not brush aside the thought of death, for the thought of death will take you to Jannah.

Only Temporary

Is it not extremely foolish to sacrifice what is permanent for what is temporary?

No Substitute

For everything we lose there is a substitute, but if someone loses Allāh ﷻ, there is no substitute.

At-Tazkiyah Publications

I'tikāf means to stay or remain in a place.

In *Sharī'ah* i'tikāf means for a male to seclude himself in a masjid where the five daily ṣalāh are performed with jamā'ah, and for a female to seclude herself in the masjid of her house with the intention of i'tikāf.

The Rukn (chief element) of I'tikāf

To seclude oneself in the masjid.

Note: *It is necessary to find out the parameters of the masjid before commencing i'tikāf so that one does not exceed the boundaries, which could result in the i'tikāf becoming void.*

Conditions of Sunnah I'tikāf

a. Intention of a sane Muslim.
b. To be pure from janābah / ḥayḍ / nifās.
c. To fast.

The Importance of Qaḍā Ṣalāh

by Mufti Ismā'īl Bhayat

Allāh ﷻ, through his infinite Mercy, has blessed the Muslim Ummah with the bounty and favour of ṣalāh. Almighty Allāh, who is our Sustainer and who is completely independent, has made ṣalāh compulsory upon Muslims through his sheer Grace.

One may question why the obligation of ṣalāh is classed as His Mercy and Grace. The answer is simple: the sole purpose of a Muslim's life is to gain the pleasure and happiness of Allāh ﷻ, so He has made such avenues compulsory in religion through which the believing Muslim can reach this goal. Five times a day believers are ordered to turn to their Creator and gain His closeness. This is so important that it will be the very first thing asked about on the Day of Judgement. Believers will have to account for every single ṣalāh that was compulsory on them in this world.